
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 8. No. 44

November 5, 2023

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



In this Roman Catholic church dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph generations of the faithful have been able to receive the grace of Our Lord. It is the grace which God made Man, who is seated at the right hand of the Father and who is forever present for us in the Church, given to us so freely so that we might know the forgiveness of sins and be forever turned towards He alone who is our salvation and the salvation of all the world.

In this place, the grace of the Sacraments is made known and the darkness of our lives can be dispelled as we look upon He who is God from God, light from light, true God from true God.

This Roman Catholic church, as with Holy Trinity Church, was built as a memorial to those who died in war and built at a time of great turmoil and uncertainty but by which the

faithful found consolation in the Faith of Our Lord.

This church has been a witness to the drama of the twentieth century and now the twenty-first century: the post-war years, then war in Korea and then Vietnam, the time of the Second Vatican Council, the confusion of the decades of the 1960's and the 1970's, the pandemic, and the ever-changing nature of our society. But what a church can give to us is a sense of stability by embedding itself in the one, true Faith. This, then, becomes an anchor amidst turmoil, and a rudder to keep us on the right course toward our salvation.

In this place, many have borne faithful witness to the faith of the Church, and this place has been the place of the rites of the holy Roman Catholic Church, the holy sacrifice of the Mass, witnessed the grace of the

Sacraments, being a place celebrating the birth of a child and a refuge offering consolation at a time of grief.

It is on this altar, consecrated sixty years ago, that the holy sacrifice of the Mass has been offered ever since and it is this holy sacrifice of the Mass that is the medicine and food which strengthens us to battle against the discouragement and to stand strong in the "good fight" (II Tim. 4:7).

Many people long for a closer union with Our Lord, so we must go to where He is. It is in Our Lord's churches, in His real presence in the Blessed Sacrament, that we find Him. There are many who disparage the need for churches and say that God can be worshipped anywhere. This was seen particularly during the pandemic when churches were closed and we were told that the

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac and John Portelli

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Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

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Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 5:45 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning

Readers

4:30 p.m. Rosemary Wehbe


8:30 a.m. Rose Succar

5:00 p.m. Claudette Takchi

SOCIAL MEDIA

 HolyCrossGranville

 Holy Cross Parish App

 @holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 2: P. Zaiter,
N. Chidiac, C. Buultjens

Readers

Vigil Racquel La Rosa, Rosette Chidiac,
Rebecca Hanson

10:00 a.m. Raphaella Chidiac,
Mary Georges, Wadzi Mushininga

Children's Liturgy Victor Liu and
Claudette Takchi

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann
Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia,
Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato,
Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese
Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine
Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony
Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto,
Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine
Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.*

IN MEMORIAM

Therese Akkary, Victor Azzopardi, Bonello family, Betty Borg,
Alice Boustani, Yousseph Boustani, Kathleen Bradbery, Paul
Bradbery, Eniketi Brown, Jim Brown, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill,
Vincent Cahill, Michael Collins, Nazirah El-Hallal, Salim El-
Hallal, Marcus El-Khoury, Alan Frost, Sita Futu'u, Carmen
Galea, Maria Gambin, Raymond Gee, Joe Grech, Mary Grech,
Sam Grech, Chahid Habib, Salim Karaki, Paul Kassis, Nouhad
Khoury, Jim Mackie, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun,
Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Paul Mathews, Sam Munro,
Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Jean Newell, Tony Newell,
Haydee Nursoo, Mary Elizabeth Olsen, Herbert Pidgeon, Laura
Pestano, Rogelio Pestano, Rolando Pestano, Emanuel Tabone,
Alex Taktak, Saviana Vailahi, Joseph Vella, Phyllis Webb, Dib
Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

The Holy Cross Parish Catechism Project YouCat for Kids Now Available

Last year we launched the first Holy Cross Parish Catechism Project which made copies of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* freely available to all those who sought to participate and support this pastoral work of the parish.

This year we continue with the Catechism Project and encourage even more people to come forward and to be a part of this important work by asking for a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and committing to reading at least one paragraph the *Catechism* each day, to praying for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Church, and to pray for Holy Cross Parish.

With this year, however, we have expanded the reach of this project and are offering copies of *YouCat*, the catechism for adolescents and young people which summarises the most important elements of the faith in a question-and-answer format so making the truths of the faith accessible to a younger generation, as well as *YouCat for Kids*, which is intended for primary school aged children.

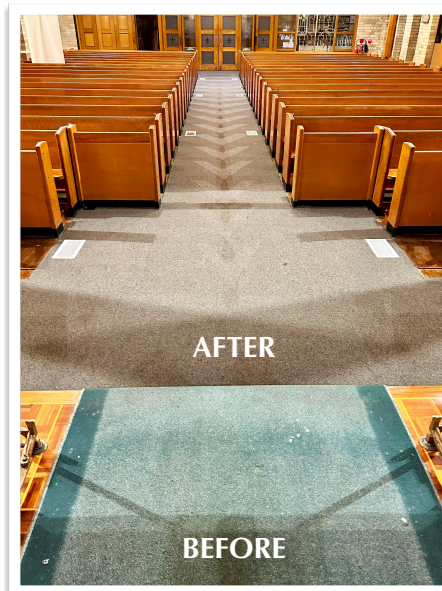
These books have been donated by Fr. Andrew and are made available to all those who seek to know and to love the Catholic faith ever more deeply. In a world which abhors truth and seeks to destroy Christianity, at a time when the teachings of the Church are questioned and formation in the faith is sorely lacking, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and education in the faith is needed more than ever.

The Church needs men and women ready to make a stand in defence of the Faith, of the Church, and of Our Lord.

New Carpet Laid at Holy Family Church

Continuing with the extensive restoration works at Holy Family Church which we began a couple of years ago, new carpet has been laid in the church. This carpet replaces the old carpet which was more than thirty years old and had become worn out and threadbare as well as stained in many places.

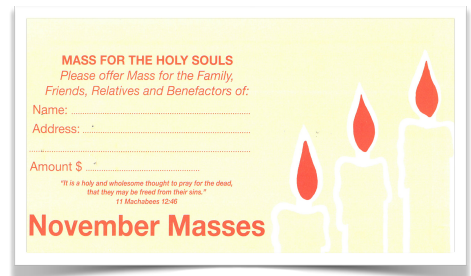
This new carpet will serve the church for many years to come and it contributes to the work of restoration, both inside and outside of the church.



All these works undertaken at Holy Family Church and at Holy Trinity Church are a means of giving thanks to almighty God for the gift of Faith that He has given to us so that we can give to Him a place worthy of divine worship and to house His real presence—Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, in the Blessed Sacrament.

November Mass Envelopes

Envelopes for November Mass offerings are available by the doors of the churches. As is the tradition of the Church, the month of November is dedicated to praying and offering the holy sacrifice of the Mass for the repose of the holy souls in purgatory. If you would like your family or friends remembered in these Masses, fill in one of the envelopes with their names (please print clearly) and leave it in the box by the doors. These names will be written in the Book of Remembrance which will be placed at the altars of the churches.



Online Donations

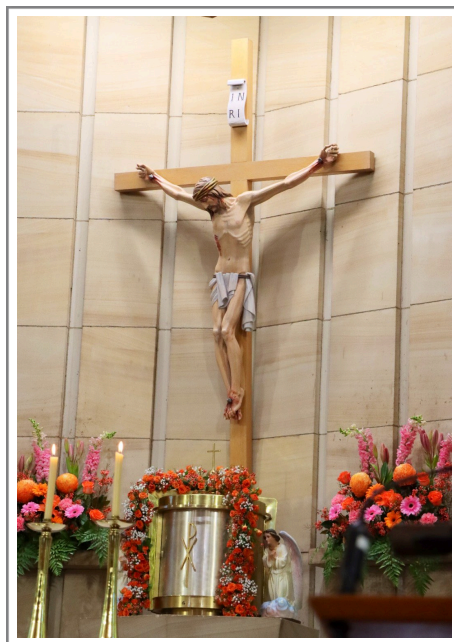
Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions through the planned giving programme and your envelopes or through the second collection. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated.



building is not the Church, but that we are the Church. Only those who have abandoned the real presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament could hold to such an idea. Only those who think of the Sacrament of the Eucharist as nothing more than a symbol or a sign or just holy bread could not see the beauty and the majesty of building a place in which we know with certainty God dwells.

Man is a physical as well as a spiritual being. Our humanity is body and soul. The desires of our souls find expression through our bodies. Our Faith is one of incarnation, of the spiritual finding a place in the material. In the beginning, God created the Garden of Eden as a place in which He could dwell with those He loved, Adam and Eve. In the book of Genesis it says: "the Lord God [was] walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze" (3:8). After the expulsion from the garden, God would meet Moses at the burning bush and he would say, "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground" (3:5). During the Exodus, as the Hebrews travelled from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land, Moses would set up a tent called the Tent of Meeting outside the camp and it would be there that he would speak with God and, as it says in the Book of Exodus, "everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting" (33:7). Later God would meet Moses and give to him the Ten commandments on Mount Sinai, a place so holy that God would say, "No one shall come up with you, and do not let anyone be seen throughout all the mountain; and do not let flocks or herds graze in front of that mountain" (Ex. 34:3). And it was God who commanded that a tent, or tabernacle, be built to house the Ark of the Covenant which held the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments as well as the manna that fell from heaven to feed His hungry people. Later, it was King Solomon who would build the Temple in Jerusalem in which the

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS



Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Holy of Holies, a place held to be so sacred that only the High Priest was permitted to enter and then only on one day of the year as he brought the blood of the lamb sacrificed and burn incense. And it was Our Lord who said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (Jn. 2:19), for He was speaking of the Temple that was His body. And it is this Temple that is Our Lord's body that means that the faithful have continued to build places of worship, for in these places is the real presence of Our Lord—His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity.

In the rite of the Dedication of a Church from the Roman rite it says, "Through His death and resurrection, Christ became the true and perfect temple of the New Covenant and gathered a people to be his own. This holy people, made one as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one, is the Church, that is, the temple of God built of living stones, where the Father is worshipped in spirit and in truth. Rightly, then, from early times 'church' has also been the name given to the building in which the Christian community gathers to hear the word of God, to pray together, to receive the Sacraments, and to celebrate the Eucharist. Because the church is a visible building, it stands as a special sign of the pilgrim Church on earth and reflects the Church dwelling in heaven".

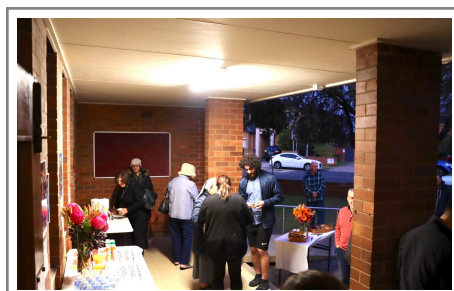
Over the past few years both churches of our parish, Holy Trinity Church and Holy Family Church, have been restored so that the beauty of these houses of God, would be enlivened. It is this work which we have undertaken that is an expression of our love of the Lord, of our love of the Faith, of our love of the Church. It is right and fitting that these works be undertaken because by them we are giving back to God what He has given to us. By using what Our Lord has granted to us, we return to Him.

This church dedicated to the Holy Family has seen great works

undertaken over the past couple of years. Outside of the church the original lighting was restored and more lighting added to show the beauty of the building. The broken tiles of the roof and the falling guttering was replaced, many of the doors which were falling apart have been replaced and all the doors repainted to give a wonderful lift to the facade. Inside the church, the lighting was replaced so as to brighten this place, the electrical switchboard was upgraded and brought up to contemporary standards, the sacred vessels have been cleaned and restored, the old carpet which was tattered and torn has been replaced—I only wish it had been replaced sooner because it is a much softer carpet and would have been so much more comfortable for all those nights that I have spent sleeping on the floor here of this church to protect it over the years from vandalism. Moreover, the statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph which adorn the side altars and which were crumbling and decaying have been refurbished and given colour which, as many said to me, has brought them to life, and the corpus of Our Lord which hangs on the cross above the sanctuary has been repaired and painted so that it becomes now a vigorous sign of the sacrifice and triumph of the Holy Cross. Soon, the Stations of the Cross will be restored so as to preserve these for those who will follow after us. These works were driven by John Portelli who saw what could be achieved and sought out those who could achieve these to make this all a reality. All these works are a mark of devotion to this place, they are a means of honouring those who came before and who gave to this place these symbols of devotion, and those who have made these works possible by their donations and their support give these as an oblation to almighty God, so thanks be to God for their generosity.

In this place, as with all Catholic churches, we should find a refuge, a safe harbour amidst the storms of

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS



the world, a place in which we can be carried by the arms of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the Angels and Saints to the arms of Our Lord who awaits us day and night in the tabernacle, the holy of holies.

In the Roman Catholic Mass, when the priest has made the offering of the bread and the wine, he bows to the altar and prays quietly: "With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God". In this way, together with all the faithful, he prepares to enter into the heart of the mystery of our salvation, into the heart of the heavenly liturgy. The altar of the sacrifice becomes the place where Heaven and earth meet; the centre of the one Church that is heavenly yet at the same time a pilgrim on this earth where, amidst the persecutions of the world and the consolations of God, disciples of the Lord proclaim His Passion and His death until He comes in glory (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, n. 8). It is this and every Mass that sees already Our Lord's triumph over sin and over the world, and in the mystery shows the radiance of the Church, "the spotless spouse of the spotless Lamb. It is she whom Christ loved and for whom He delivered Himself up that He might sanctify her" (*Lumen Gentium*, n. 6).

Let us pray that the the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, and her most chaste spouse, St. Joseph may intercede for us always, to guard us and to guide us to their Son, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, so that by His Holy Cross, we may know and see His redemption of all the world and know through our pilgrim life on this earth the grace of the holy sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacraments so that, one day, we, too, might come to live in the eternal house of God and join forever with the Angels and the Saints in the liturgy of heaven.

*Homily given by
Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass at Holy Mass*



MASSES FOR THE DEAD

NOVEMBER MASSES

To have the names of the faithful departed of your family and your friends remembered at the altar during Holy Masses said during the month of November, complete one of the special November Masses envelopes and leave this in the box by the doors of the church.

The names of those given will be written in the Book of Remembrance and placed at the altar of St. Joseph at Holy Family Church and in the chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of the World at Holy Trinity Church.

During the month of November the Church asks the faithful to pray for the faithful departed—that the Holy Souls in Purgatory may be forgiven their sins and so borne to live forever with Our Lord and all the Angels and Saints.

Of this Pope Francis has said that “Church tradition has always urged prayer for the dead, in particular by offering the celebration of the Eucharist for them: It is the best spiritual help that we can give to their souls, particularly to the most abandoned ones.”

Pope Benedict XVI said that “praying for the dead is a noble practice that implies belief in the resurrection of the dead... We intend our prayers of suffrage... to be united with this prayer of the Lord which is priestly *par excellence*. Christ substantiated his entreaty to the Father with the gift of himself on the Cross; let us offer our prayers in union with the Eucharistic Sacrifice, which is the real and actual representation of that unique and saving self-emptying.”

The Holy Mass is the highest form of prayer of the Church, because it is the prayer of Christ Himself—the Son of God to the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit. There can be no greater prayer than this to be said for those who are suffering in purgatory, and no greater hope of salvation than offering this prayer.

We pray for those who have died because they can no longer pray for themselves. While in this life we can pray for ourselves and perform penances as acts of contrition for our sins. But at our death, we are no longer able to do this and so we rely solely on the love and the mercy of those who remain in this world and of the Saints in heaven to pray for us and our eternal souls.

In each Mass the Priest prays for the dead, asking the Lord to remember His servants “who have gone before us with the sign of faith and rest in the sleep of peace” and asking that they may be granted “a place of refreshment, light, and peace.” This November, remember those who have died and pray for them, so that, they, when we depart from this world, will remember and pray for us.

Saints & STUFF

St. JUDE

St. Jude, known as Thaddeus, was the brother of St. James the Less, and one of the twelve Apostles. He is often depicted with the attributes of a flame above his head, meaning that he was present at Pentecost, and holding an image of Christ. Biblical scholars agree St. Jude was a son of Clopas and his mother Mary was the Virgin Mary's cousin. He preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Libya, and returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem. Most scholars agree St. Jude was martyred either in Armenia or Beirut. His bones are interred now in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He is devoutly honoured by Catholics as the patron of difficult cases, because of his encouragement to perseverance in his epistle (the Letter of St. Jude). Moreover, both St. Bridget of Sweden and St. Bernard, had visions from God asking them to accept St. Jude as "the Patron Saint of the Impossible." So let us honour St. Jude and his generous intercession before the throne of almighty God, that he may pray for us and help us in our needs, and that, by the grace of God, we will persevere in faith in all difficulties.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ways of Coming to Know God

33 The human person: with his openness to truth and beauty, his sense of moral goodness, his freedom and the voice of his conscience, with his longings for the infinite and for happiness, man questions himself about God's existence. In all this he discerns signs of his spiritual soul. the soul, the "seed of eternity we bear in ourselves, irreducible to the merely material", can have its origin only in God.

34 The world, and man, attest that they contain within themselves neither their first principle nor their final end, but rather that they participate in Being itself, which alone is without origin or end. Thus, in different ways, man can come to know that there exists a reality which is the first cause and final end of all things, a reality "that everyone calls God".

35 Man's faculties make him capable of coming to a knowledge of the existence of a personal God. But for man to be able to enter into real intimacy with him, God willed both to reveal himself to man, and to give him the grace of being able to welcome this revelation in faith.(so) the proofs of God's existence, however, can predispose one to faith and help one to see that faith is not opposed to reason.

CATHOLIC Trivia

Protestant Preacher Admits Catholics Have Most Miracles

A video is being shared around on social media (<https://youtu.be/VvYeXh3JHco>) of Pentecostal preacher Benny Hinn telling a Pentecostal audience that Catholics experience more miracles than Pentecostals.

Amazingly, he credits this to the Catholic belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, which Hinn says he also affirms (at least a version of it). He also credits the fact that Catholics don't "church hop" (or jump from church to church) as much as Pentecostals.

Hinn tells his audience, "They just released a study that more people are healed in a Catholic church than in Pentecostal churches... Because Catholic people revere the Eucharist."

And he adds, "There's healing in the Catholic churches because these people are devoted and show up every Sunday. They don't church hop. We hop, they don't. That's why we're sick, and many of them are healed."

Maybe we should appreciate a little more the fullness of truth given to us by the Catholic Church...

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V C A L S

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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Readings

Introit (Cf. Ps. 37:22-23)

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading

The Prophet Malachi (1:14-2:2, 8-10)

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 130)

℟. In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me. ℟.

Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul. ℟.

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and for ever. ℟.

Second Reading

The First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (2:7-9, 13)

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation (Mt. 23:9, 10)

Alleluia, alleluia!
You have one Father, your Father in heaven;
you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel

The Gospel of St. Matthew (23:1-12)

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Communio (Cf. Ps. 15:11)

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

“ With death, our life-choice
becomes definitive –
our life stands
before the judge. ”

– Pope Benedict XVI